GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2305
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2001
PRODUCTION OF UREA OTHER FERTILIZERS
VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA

Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of Urea and other Fertilizers in the country is likely to decline this year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of efforts made by the Government to ensure Urea supply in consonance with its demand?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (SHRI S. B. MOOKHERJEE)

(a)& (b) Yes, Sir. The production of fertilizers is estimated to be 109.6 Lakh MTs ofnitrogen against the target of 116.6 Lakh MTs and of 40.8 Lakh MTs of Phosphate against the target of 49.3 Lakh MTs. during the current year. Decline in production is mainly due to inadequate and poor quality of gas supply to the urea plants and equipment break downs in urea plants of FACT Cochin-I, Aonla I of IFFCO and Tuticorin of SPIC. The production of phosphate will be less than the target mainly due to the reasons that firstly, the Kandla plant of IFFCO could not operate at full capacity during April andMay, 2001 due to maintenance works following the Gujarat earthquake, secondly, non- stabilisation of production of Oswal Chemicals & Fertilizers plant at Paradeep and thirdly,delay in commissioning of GSFC:Sikka-II unit.

(c) Urea is the only fertilizer which is under statutory price, distribution and movement control of Government of India. Adequate availability of urea to each State/Union Territory is ensured as per assessed demand through the system of allocation and movement control under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. To meet the reasonable pipeline requirement during the peak months of current Rabi 2001-02, Government has imported 2.2 lakh MT of urea.